Abolition of toll gates.

14.* **MR. R. SIVASUBRAMONIA NADAR** (*Agastisvaram*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are in receipt of a resolution from the people of Agastisvaram taluk for abolishing the toll gates at Suchindram and Anjugramam; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken on the same?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The prayer was rejected.

MR. R. SIVASUBRAMONIA NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): என்னுடைய அபேக்ஷையை தள்ளுவதற்கு ஏதாவது காரணங்கள் உண்டா

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The contract was already given. Government do not consider it necessary to reconsider that.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I request the member to be more audible?

PRESIDENT: I cannot hear the member either. Please speak up, Mr. Thommen.

MR. R. SIVASUBRAMONIA NADAR (*Agastisvaram*): அனல், சுசீந்திரம், அஞ்சுகிராமம், இந்த இடங்களில் டோல்கள் வைக்க ஏதாவது ஸ்பெஷல் காரணங்கள் உண்டா?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government introduced the new toll to tax the buses that pass between Nagercoil and the Cape.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the buses alone that pass through a particular route are taxed?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Not necessarily.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I correct when I understand the member to say that the particular toll that was instituted was for the purpose of tapping the bus traffic?

PRESIDENT: It is not relevant.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Beg your pardon, Sir.

PRESIDENT: The question is about two particular toll gates.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I want to know the purpose to be served by locating the toll gate there.

PRESIDENT: I have said that that question is irrelevant.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the Government are aware that carts used for the purpose of transporting manure for agricultural purposes are taxed while passing to and fro?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Government are not aware.

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MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : Do the Government propose at least to take into consideration the present condition of the ryots in the matter of allowing freedom for such carts from payment of toll ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : Government will consider the matter.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Does the levy of tolls affect the price of paddy ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : Government have no information.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : What is the basis for levying these tolls there ?

PRESIDENT : I have already said that that question is not relevant.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Is it not possible to abolish those tolls ?

PRESIDENT ; I cannot hear you.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Is it not possible to abolish those tolls ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : Government do not consider it possible to abolish them now.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Then, is it possible to change the method of collecting toll ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : That is a different question. We are not concerned now about the method of collecting toll.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : Cannot the toll be collected by the Revenue Department just like land tax ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : That question does not arise.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*) : Is not the subvention from the funds of the petrol duty for the abolition of tolls ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) ; Are the Government aware that in the Legislative Council more than once the resolution for the abolition of tolls was carried by the House ?

PRESIDENT : That question does not arise.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*) : Is the member aware that tolls were abolished in Travancore some fifty years back in the time of Sir T. Madhava Rao ?

PRESIDENT : That question also does not arise.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know from Government...

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PRESIDENT : Mr. Sivatanu Pillai, you cannot ask a supplementary question now. The practice in the Indian Legislative Assembly is that a member only rises once to ask supplementary questions, he asks what he wants to ask and he cannot ask again. I shall better rule that that shall be the custom here in future. If a member wants to ask supplementary questions he shall ask only once.

Appointment of ladies in the Secretariat.

15.* **MR. K. PADMANABHAN** (*Chirayinkil I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of ladies employed in the Secretariat either as clerks or as typists ; and

(*b*) how many Ezhavas are in that group ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) 4—of whom 3 are acting clerks in the Secretariat and one in the Central Vernacular Records—Temporary staff.

(*b*) None.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : The question as originally sent by me referred to the High Court also. I do not know how in the printed question the Secretariat alone appears.

PRESIDENT : That would come in as a separate question.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : May I know whether any applications have been received by Government from Ezhava ladies, either graduates or undergraduates, for typist's or clerk's posts ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes, there have been applications.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Are these applications now pending with the Government ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : They are in the file.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : May I know the date of the earliest of such applications ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : In 1931, there was an application.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : Was it from a graduate ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*) : May I know whether the Government will be pleased to appoint that lady in the near future ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : That depends upon the vacancy that may arise.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know the number of ladies appointed from each community ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Two are Nair adies and one is a Syrian Christian.

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